

Commissioner for Patents United States Patent and Trademark Office Washington, D.C. 20231

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In re Application of

RETTENMAEIR, Josef, Otto

U.S. Application No.: 09/380,739

PCT No.: PCT/DE98/00589

International Filing Date: 28 February 1998

Priority Date: 11 March 1997

Attorney's Docket No.: 017309/0172

For: LAUNDRY DETERGENT COMPACT

WHICH DISINTEGRATES IN LIQUID

DECISION ON SECOND RENEWED PETITION UNDER 37 CFR 1.48(a)

On 19 January 2001, this Office mailed a decision dismissing applicants' "Renewed Petition Under 37 CFR 1.48(a)" for failure to satisfy all the requirements of a grantable petition. Specifically, the written consent of the assignee (required to be in compliance with 37 CFR 3.73(b)) was found inadequate because it was not executed by a party authorized to act on behalf of the assignee.

On 12 July 2001, applicants submitted the "Second Renewed Petition Under 37 CFR 1.48(a)" considered herein. The second renewed petition was accompanied by an "Assignee Consent Under 37 CFR 1.48(a)" executed by the Patent Director and Vice President Patents for the Assignee Henkel KGaA. The statement refers specifically to the recorded assignments through which Henkel KGaA owns this application, states that the executing parties are authorized to act on behalf of the assignee, and consents to the requested correction in inventorship. Applicants have therefore now satisfied the final requirement for a grantable petition under 37 CFR 1.497(d).

The petition is GRANTED. The inventorship for this application is corrected so as to add Hans-Friedrich Kruse, Martin Holl, Harold Schlosser, and Armin Ungerer as inventors.

Based on the corrected inventorship, the declaration filed by applicants on 15 December 1999 is no longer defective and can now be accepted in compliance with 37 CFR 1.497.

It is noted that, on 26 February 2001, a "Request To Change Correspondence Address" and a "Revocation And Appointment Of Power Of Attorney" were filed in this case. The Revocation was executed on behalf of the assignee. However, one of the same representatives of the assignee who executed the Revocation has also executed the Assignee Consent considered herein, which was submitted by prior counsel. It is therefore unclear whom is the proper attorney of record in this matter. For that reason, a copy of this decision has been forwarded to counsel

appointed in the 26 February 2001 submission. Applicants are advised to submit clarification as to the proper agents and correspondence address for this application.

The application is being forwarded to the National Stage Processing Brance of the Office of PCT Operations for further processing in accord with this decision. Hte 35 U.S.C. 371 date is 15 December 1999.

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